

Workers Together

Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Volume 14, Issue 7

August 2007

Greensburg Tornado Recovery Update

by Rev. Rocky Mease

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Caring Ministry

Chaplain Rocky Mease - chaprm@aol.com

Media Library

Joyce Tate - joyce@kslcms.org

Targeted District Response

Chaplain Rocky Mease - chaprm@aol.com

Motivated by the love of Christ and in response to the recent tornadoes in the corridor of central Kansas (including Greensburg, Claflin, Maxville and surrounding communities), Lutheran leaders from area congregations met to formulate their initial response. They began by listening to each other's stories. Comments heard were, "We are Christ to these people." "I am blown away by the response today and the number of people here." "Thanks for prayers from around the world." "There is a resurrected spirit in the community." Concerns were raised that the entire corridor be responded to in addition to Greensburg. Organizations represented were: The Kansas District, LCMS; The Central States Synod, ELCA; Lutheran Disaster Response; LCMS World Relief and Human Care; Lutheran Church Charities; and Lutheran Women's Missionary League. (The above statement was crafted by Lutheran leaders at a meeting held May 8, 2007.)

The Kansas District has a long history of working together with the Central States Synod (ELCA) in disaster response. In the years since LSS of Kansas and Oklahoma has closed, we have formed a collaboration we have called Kansas Lutheran Disaster Response. It is the intention of the Kansas District to coordinate our disaster response through the KLDR.

On May 11 the Kansas District issued the following letter of intent regarding funding for the May 2007 Kansas tornadoes.

"The Kansas District, LCMS requests that funds for the Kansas Tornado Response be directed to LCMS World Relief and Human Care. LCMS World Relief and Human Care has indicated that they will match the first \$200,000 in gifts. Upon receipt, the Kansas District LCMS will direct those gifts to:

- 1) The purchase of direct services from Lutheran Family Service of Nebraska for a full time case manager and other services as the Kansas District LCMS and the Central States Synod ELCA deem necessary,
- 2) The support of church workers affected by the May 2007 Kansas tornadoes,
- 3) The support of congregations affected by the May 2007 Kansas tornadoes,
- 4) The support of the communities served by these congregations."

In mid May President Kohlmeier made an initial request of funds from LCMS Human Care and World Relief for \$40,000. Based upon the above letter of intent, this first request has been expended in the following manner:

1) The purchase of direct services from Lutheran Family Service of Nebraska for a full-time case manager and other services as the Kansas District LCMS and the Central States Synod ELCA deem necessary:

- ♦ \$30,877 has been sent to LFS of Nebraska (for a 3 month contract)
- ♦ \$353.23 was spent to pay gas for the Southern District Mobile Command Center to provide housing for LFS employees
- ♦ \$1,519.00 was spent on a laptop to be used by LFS employers during this disaster.

2) The support of church workers affected by the May 2007 Kansas tornadoes - \$3,640.52 has been spent to pay the Peace, Greensburg portion of Pastor Henning's salary and benefits.

article continued on page 3

A monthly publication of
The Kansas District of The Lutheran
Church - Missouri Synod for
congregations, schools, professional
church workers and lay leaders.
If you have any news items to
share with congregations in our
district, please direct them to:
Workers Together Editor
Kansas District LCMS
1000 SW 10th Ave
Topeka KS 66604-1104
Phone: 785-357-4441, Ext. 223
Fax: 785-357-5071
Email: lori@kslcms.org
Deadline: 15th of each month

Calls Accepted

- Young Hee Chung from Roseville, Minn. to Faith, Topeka, Director of Worship Ministry (contract)
- Debra Dillon from Concordia, Seward to Bethany, Overland Park, Teacher (contract)
- Neal Kurtz from Pierce, Neb. to Linn Lutheran School, Principal/Teacher
- Paul White from Concordia, Seward to Mt. Calvary, Wamego, DCE

Calls Pending

- Andrea White from Concordia, Seward to St. John, Alma, Teacher

Calls Declined

- Timothy Holste from Knoxville, Tenn. to St. John, Alma, Teacher
- Chuck Merriman from St. John, Ellinwood to Trinity, Salina, DCE

Calling Congregations/Schools

St. John, Alma (Teacher)
 St. Peter, Barnes
 Zion, Downs
 Bethlehem, Greenleaf
 St. Paul, Junction City
 St. Paul, Lincoln
 Christ, Manhattan
 Trinity, Mission (Min. of Outreach)
 Zion, Newton
 Christ, Overland Park (Senior Pastor)
 Trinity, Parsons
 Trinity, Salina (DCE)
 Calvary, Topeka
 St. Luke, Wheaton

Milestone Ordination Anniversaries

June

George Bruening	65 years	Mark Boxman	20 years
John Pool	45 years	Tom Harries	15 years
Frank Eberhart	40 years	Richard Andrus	10 years
Glenn Bitter	40 years	Dennis Fangmeyer	5 years
Bob Shaedel	35 years	Damian Snyder	5 years

July

Lloyd Sprick	45 years	John Schmidt	30 years
Don Miller	40 years	LeRoy Pralle	25 years
Lee Hovel	35 years	Ken Nettling	10 years
Richard Bruenger	35 years		

August

Marvin Barz	50 years	Martin Schmidt	25 years
Jim Larson	50 years	Ted Cook	20 years
Tom Krause	35 years	James Webster	20 years
John Riebhoff	25 years	Dale Dumperth	15 years

District Calendar

August

3-5	LLL/LWML Family Retreat, Camp Webster
14	PDC, District Office
17-18	District Board of Directors, District Office
18	Installation of Rev. Mark Frith as Assistant to President for Mission & Stewardship, St. John, Topeka
24-26	Lay Leadership Institute, District Office

September

14-16	Lay Leadership Institute, District Office
17-18	Timothy Gathering, District Office
21-23	Family Life Academy 07-09, District Office
22	Elders Training Workshop, Messiah, Hays
25	Education Loan Repayment Committee
27-28	Principals' Conference, Topeka

Prayers

- Deaconess Linda Cosgrove, St. John, Topeka, at the death of her infant granddaughter, Breanna
- Rev. Michael Brockman, Christ, Hutchinson, and family at the death of his mother, Ruth
- Barb McComas, retired teacher, TLS, health concerns
- Terry Wiechman, Trinity, Wichita, health concerns
- Barb Teske, Board of Directors, health concerns

Area Chaplains

Wichita - Contact Reverend Rocky Mease. Home: 316-788-9627 Cell: 316-993-0746 Email: chaprm@aol.com.

Topeka - For hospital visits in Topeka, contact Reverend George Bruening at 785-273-5769 or 636-627-7315.

Kansas City - Our Saviour Lutheran Church has an apartment available for families who have patients in Kansas City area hospitals (sleeps 4). Families must live outside a 35 mile radius of Kansas City. Contact Donna Bottemuller at 913-236-6228 for more information.

District Phone

Phone 1-785-357-4441
Toll Free 1-800-357-4421
FAX 1-785-357-5071

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President's Office press 7
 Pres. Kohlmeier (219)
 Marie Holt (219)
Business Office press 3
 Debbie Crites (204)
 Tami Lierz (200)
LCEF press 3
 Larry Crume (205)
Education press 5
 Jim Bradshaw (206)
 Joyce Tate (206)

Media Library

Joyce Tate (206)
Mission & Stewardship press 4
 Mark Frith (222)
 Lori Hennessey (223)
Planned Giving press 6
 Garry Niehoff (101)
 Doris Wilson (101)
Directory press 8
Extension by name press 9
Operator press 0

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3) The support of congregations affected by the May 2007 Kansas tornadoes:

- ♦ \$1,000 was spent to provide Walmart gift cards to 19 families of Peace
- ♦ \$1,710.31 has been spent on travel and expenses for Chaplain Mease who has provided support both to Peace, and Zion, Claflin congregations
- ♦ In addition to these funds, LCMS World Relief and Human Care also sent \$30,000 directly to Peace to be distributed to church members. Peace has also received direct gifts from congregations and individuals.

4) The support of the communities served by these congregations - \$5,000 was sent to the South Central Kansas Tornado and Recovery Organization (SCKTRO).

The Kansas District has requested an additional \$50,000 grant (from the LCMS World Relief and Human Care matched funds), \$45,000 of which will be disbursed through case management to assist storm victims.

The Kansas District has forwarded \$6,246.50 received from congregations and members to LCMS World Relief and Human Care. In addition, the Kansas District has provided the services of Chaplain Rocky Mease (at an approximate value of \$12,500).

Orphan Grain Train has provided FEMA the use of two portable water tankers and a refrigerator unit, used by the Methodist Church, to provide over 500 meals a day to volunteers and Greensburg citizens

Between all Lutheran entities involved (LCMS World Relief and Human Care; Kansas District, LCMS; Central States Synod, ELCA; Orphan Grain Train; Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Church Charities; Lutheran Women's Missionary League and Lutheran Laymen's League) we have provided a fairly steady pastoral presence to the victims of the May 4 & 5 Kansas tornadoes, as well as some substantial assistance to Lutheran members.

How Can You Help?

✚ **Prayer** - While our arms cannot get around these disasters, God's arms can and in fact already are holding Kansas in His loving embrace. Pray for all those who have been adversely impacted by storms this year.

✚ **Report** - Please let me know if members of your congregation or neighbors have unmet needs resulting from all these storms. I doubt that adequate unmet needs committees will be formed for all areas of the state. You can help reach out to those in need by letting Kansas Lutheran Disaster Response know of unmet needs - email Chaprm@aol.com, phone 316-993-0746.

✚ **Give** - Funds help provide direct aid to victims as well as staff to support those victims. For the May tornado and floods, please continue to send funds to LCMS World Relief and Human Care. For the June/July floods, please send funds to the Kansas District, earmarked for the June/July floods.

✚ **Volunteer** - There continues to be the need for some volunteers in Greensburg. Please contact Julie Hillshafer at 620-388-3760 or jewels_034@yahoo.com. There will be a need for work teams to do rebuilding as we move on to that phase of disaster recovery. Currently the need is for smaller clean up jobs and some limited repair work on existing structures. Help is also needed for Camp Noah (August 6-10, with training on August 4). Housing is limited, so make sure you have made contact with Julie before you arrive.

LCMS World Relief and Human Care, LDR and myself have toured the devastation in Coffeyville. LDR has made Bud Harper (through Lutheran Family and Children Service of Missouri) available as a Disaster Coordinator. Because of a lack of housing and unanswered health concerns, we are not currently seeking volunteers to work in this area. Conversations are currently underway to determine how best to respond to this disaster. As we know more we will place updates on the Kansas District website, www.kslcms.org.

Lutheran Witness Renewals

The Lutheran Witness renewals were recently sent to all congregations. Concordia Publishing House requires that the renewal instruction sheet (follow instructions completely) and the original computer printout be returned to the District Office for processing, even if there are no changes. Deadline for submitting renewal information is August 15.

Please **do not send** Lutheran Witness payment at this time. Statements will be sent in November. If you have any questions or need further information, contact Tami Lierz at 785-357-4441 ext. 200 or tami@kslcms.org.

Campus Ministry Contacts for Kansas colleges & universities can be found at: http://www.kslcms.org/ks_departments/mission_stewardship/campus_ministry.htm

Professional Workers Conference

The Professional Church Workers Conference (PCWC) will take place October 7-9 at the Capitol Plaza in Topeka. This conference is for all active and retired church workers and their spouses.

Go to www.kslcms.org/pcwc for up-to-the-minute conference registration details regarding schedule, speakers and the **NEW on-line registration process**.

Your registration cost is \$110 before August 15, \$115 from August 15 to September 15, \$120 after September 15.

This includes the Sunday evening banquet, lunch on Monday and Tuesday and mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack breaks.

If you have any questions, call Joyce at the District Office, 785-357-4441 ext. 206 or 800-357-4421 ext. 206.



ABBA, Father:
His Plan, Our Purpose
Rom. 8:1

Mission & Stewardship

Rev. Mark T. Frith, Assistant to President

Following a New Path by Rev. Mark T. Frith

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Members of the Church learn this passage early in their training, and for good reason. Our LORD desires that we entrust all that we are and do into His care. So it is that prayerfully I entrust myself and work to the LORD in this new position given me with the Kansas District. Allow me to invite your prayers for me that I might be faithful to you and the work that the LORD has entrusted to me on your behalf.

On July 15, I began my duties as Assistant to the President for Mission and Stewardship here at the Kansas District. It is an honor and privilege to begin this service. As this post has been vacant in a full-time capacity for a little less than 2 years, but wonderfully undertaken in a part-time capacity by Rev. Eugene Schmidt, I have a lot of catching up to do. That will be my goal for the first few weeks. I look forward to many visits throughout the Kansas District to interact with the workers and congregational members of our district. As I gain in understanding and knowledge of my responsibilities and skills, I pray that the LORD provides wisdom so that I can be of faithful service as a leader for the district in the areas of Mission and Stewardship.

Suffice that this first article be one of introduction. I have served the LCMS as a parish pastor for 17 years.

Mission Grant Applications

Applications for mission grants are now being taken from congregations needing financial assistance to expand ministry. The documents must be completed and returned to the District office by Sept. 15 to be considered by the Board of Mission for the fiscal year 2008.

The District asks each congregation requesting a mission grant to provide: specific plans as to how the mission grant will be used; past, current and projected expectations related to budget, membership and worship attendance; congregation goals.

To request a grant application, please contact Lori Hennessey at 800-357-4421 ext. 223 or lori@kslcms.org.

Education Loan Repayment

Applications are now being accepted for the Kansas District Education Loan Repayment Grants. These grants are available to all rostered synodical graduates working in the Kansas District with graduation dates of 1998 or later.

Applications were sent in mid-July to all Kansas professional workers that are eligible for the program. If you did not receive an application, please contact Lori Hennessey at 800-357-4421 ext. 223 or lori@kslcms.org. The deadline for submitting applications is Sept. 7.

I was born and raised in northern Minnesota, a graduate of Concordia College, St. Paul, and a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. I served my first parish in Largo, Florida - Christ the King Lutheran Church - from 1990 to 2000. In September 2000 my family and I moved to Olathe, to serve as Pastor at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. In June, 2007, I received and accepted the Call to the Kansas District.

My wife's name is Leigh. God was good to me when He intersected our lives together. I am not a real sentimental person, but I thank the LORD for her as the person I can lean upon, and the person who props me up, reminding me in whom I must trust. The LORD gave us two great children, Aaron (15) and Hannah (13). They have been tangible gifts, reminding us that the LORD is good and His grace is sufficient.

I look forward to the many opportunities I will have in being a servant to our Kansas District churches and the people and workers who serve our LORD. *ABLAZE!* will be the leading motif in our work together in Mission and Stewardship. We will lean on Christ's cross as our cane for our straight path. We will be supported by God's grace, mercy and forgiveness - the very means for our trusting. To that end: *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”*

Scholarship Grants Awarded

The District Scholarship Committee received applications from 48 students attending LCMS colleges and seminaries. Grants from the District were awarded for the 2007-2008 school year as follows:

- Underclassmen (10 students) - \$600
- Upperclassmen (22) - \$700
- Deaconess (1) - \$700
- Seminary, full-time (7) - \$1,950
- Seminary, vicarage (5) - \$750
- Vicarage, 1 semester (1) - \$375.

The total amount awarded was \$43,259, including additional generous gifts designated for students from congregations within specific circuits.

Tuition at LCMS colleges and seminaries rises each year. For example, tuition is \$19,670 at Concordia University in Seward and \$21,600 at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. These figures do not include any additional expenses such as room and board or books and supplies.

District scholarship funds are made available through interest from scholarship endowments, designated gifts and bequests and part of the Ash Wednesday offerings received from congregations.

Planned Giving Garry Niehoff, Counselor

Retirement Planning - A Whole New Perspective

Retirement planning is one of those things we tend to view from one perspective – the years *in advance of* retirement. But over the past couple of decades many individuals and families have done such a good job of creating a nice nest egg for those “golden years” that a whole new window on the issue has opened up.

Our tax laws encourage, even facilitate, the building of retirement funds through a variety of “qualified plans.” However, these funds (and the benefits associated with them) are not intended to be *inheritance* plans.

So, when a retirement plan makes up a portion of the estate at death, it is subject to taxation specifically designed to make up for the tax-deferred benefits afforded while the fund was being built.

As a result, a retirement plan could be hit with taxes (estate and income taxes) equaling as much as 60%! A \$1 million dollar fund could shrink to \$400,000 or less.

However, there are a number of options which make it possible to avoid this kind of tax-bite at death. As is often the case, for individuals whose planning includes a philanthropic thrust, some careful planning can ensure that shrinkage is minimal.

All that is required is that you view your retirement plan from a new perspective. With the help of a professional well versed in the options, you can insure that every asset in your estate has maximum impact – making it possible for your hopes and dreams for family, friends and

“A man’s heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.” Proverbs 16:9

church to be realized.

So while it may be a considerably different window on the future, a little planning can mean that even those funds you’ve set aside for retirement can have impact far beyond your golden years. If you’d like information on some of the options open to you, call our office at 785-357-4441 ext. 101. There is no cost or obligation.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Larry Crume, Vice President

Join the K.I.D.S. Stamp Program

Congregations and schools now have an extra incentive to participate in the K.I.D.S. Savings Stamp Program - FREE stamps! This month as schools start for the new



year is a great time to introduce children to the LCEF K.I.D.S. stamp program.

As a new participant in the K.I.D.S. program, an organization will receive its first order of stamps FREE (up to a value

of \$100). This offer is made by the national LCEF office with stamps being distributed directly to the organizations after receiving their material order forms.

The K.I.D.S. Saving Stamp Program gets kids involved in the ministry of the church. Parents and teachers can instruct young people in the importance of saving, but without a fun and convenient program they may soon lose interest. When the kids in your church or school become K.I.D.S. savers they will know they are saving their money as well as taking personal pride in helping to build, expand or renovate churches or schools like those in their community. Over the years, thousands have participated and many thousands of dollars belonging to kids have been used to build God’s Kingdom.

To begin with, each child receives a K.I.D.S. saving stamp book. Stamps are purchased through your church for \$0.25 or \$1.00 each. Once full, the \$25.00 book is sent to LCEF and deposited into a savings account in the

Lutheran Church Extension Fund *Interest Rates - August 2007*

Steward Account Rates:

Congregational Certificates

Demand	3.375%
Steward Account	4.125%

Individual Accounts

Less than \$1,000	2.375%
\$1,000 - less than \$5,000	2.500%
\$5,000 - less than \$10,000	2.875%
\$10,000 and over	4.125%



LCEF provides loans for LCMS Congregations, Schools and Professional Church Workers:

Monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable	6.000%
5 Year fixed	6.500%

Congregation Endowment (60-Month Fixed or Floating):

Min. Investment	Rate	APY
\$1,000	4.585%	4.664%
\$10,000	4.710%	4.794%
\$100,000	4.835%	4.923%

child’s name with a parent or guardian as the custodian. Once established, kids may deposit other money received as gifts or perhaps earned. All savings through LCEF earn interest and are used for low interest loans to churches and schools, for all to share the good news of Christ. For more information, contact Tami Lierz at 800-357-4421 ext. 200.

Educational Services

Jim Bradshaw, Executive

Family Life “Monthly Connections”

At St. Peter, Humboldt, we continue to plan for using the Milestone Ministries. We have had positive response to the use of the Faith Chests, presentation of age-appropriate Bibles to third graders, presentation of NIV Study Bibles to confirmands and recognition of high school graduates and their parents. The Bibles that have been presented were personalized with notations by friends and relatives of the recipients. In addition, we are recognizing baptismal birthdays of the entire congregation in our bulletin each Sunday and sending a card to children. This card also includes suggestions for using the baptismal candle and celebrating this event in the home.

As many of the individuals on our prayer list are not members of our congregation, we have begun identifying these people both in our bulletin and in the corporate prayer. This helps our members identify more closely with the person being prayed for.

The weekend of October 6 is BIBLESTA weekend in Humboldt. The main feature of this 50-year tradition is a parade at 1:30 on Saturday with all floats depicting stories from the Bible. Musical entertainment following the parade will feature the well-known Gatlin Brothers. This is a one-of-a-kind event and we invite all of you to come and be a part of it. Plan to come in the morning for a tour of Humboldt and the opportunity to see store windows decorated for Biblesta. We would also like for you to be our guests for lunch at the church preceding the parade. Let us know if you plan to attend. There is also a free bean feed in the town square at 5:00.

For more information, call St. Peter’s Lutheran Church at 620-473-2343. St. Peter’s uses Biblesta weekend to present Bibles to our third graders during our worship services on Sunday morning. If you need overnight accommodations, we suggest the Super 8 motel in Iola.

Submitted by Judy Kubler of St. Peter, Humboldt

Looking Ahead

Aug. 4	District Single’s Summer Workshop, Holy Cross, Wichita
Aug. 4	District Early Childhood Educators Summer Workshop, Holy Cross, Wichita
Aug. 11	CPH “Sunday School Basics” Workshop, St. Paul, Clay Center
Aug. 12	CPH “Sunday School Basics” Workshop, Trinity, Colby
Aug. 24-26	Teen Leadership Retreat, Rock Springs 4H
Aug. 25	CPH “Sunday School & Mid-Week” Workshop, Messiah, Emporia
Aug. 25	Youth Ministry Academy, Rock Springs 4H
Sept. 27-28	Principals’ Conference, Clubhouse Inn, Topeka

Sunday School Training Workshops

In an on-going effort to build up the Sunday School and mid-week ministry in the Kansas District, three churches are sponsoring Sunday School training workshops in August led by DCE Tom Nummela from Concordia Publishing House. The workshops will be held at: St. Paul, Clay Center on Saturday, August 11 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Trinity, Colby on Sunday, August 12 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Messiah, Emporia on Saturday, August 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

These are exciting and interactive presentations on effectively leading Sunday School ministry. The workshops will provide basic training for the new teacher as well as timely reminders for the veteran teacher. Ideas for generating enthusiasm for Sunday School and increasing congregation support will also be presented. The \$20 workshop fee includes a one-year subscription to *Teachers Interaction* magazine. To register, log on to <http://sundayschool.cph.org/workshops>.

Visit the Kansas District website:
www.kslcms.org

LYF Representatives Needed

Calling all sophomores in high school! Please prayerfully consider your service to the Kansas District as one of six Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) representatives. LYF is a resource of the Youth Ministry Office of the LCMS and promotes leadership skill development in teenagers. LYF is committed to empowering youth and adults to use their gifts and energies in service to God and His people as they celebrate their faith in Jesus Christ. All LYF representatives are asked to attend two District Youth Committee meetings and two of the six will receive a paid trip to the annual Council of LYF Representatives (CLYFR) on March 13-16, 2008 in St. Louis. Deadline to receive applications at the District Office is September 1. The new LYF representatives will be introduced at the District Youth Gathering in Wichita the weekend of November 16-18. Applicants must be a sophomore (2007-08) with leadership qualities. He/she must include the following information: 1) name; 2) date of application; 3) home address/city/zip; 4) home phone; 5) age; 6) 2007-08 grade in school; 7) home congregation; 8) something about yourself (hobbies, favorite classes, family, likes/dislikes, favorite activities, current and past participation in your youth group, etc.).

Applicants then must share a response to the following and enclose two letters of recommendation: 1) Please tell us why you would like to be an LYF District Representative for Kansas, 2) Please enclose a letter of recommendation from your Pastor, 3) Please enclose a letter of recommendation from your Youth Counselor.

Return application to: District Youth Ministry Committee, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604 by September 1.

Youth Ministry Training

Two awesome events targeting youth ministry are occurring on the same weekend. Consider the Teen Leadership Retreat and the Youth Ministry Academy at Rock Springs 4H Camp near Junction City on August 24-26.

These are two separate events held at the same time and in the same location. Even though meals and lodging space will be held in common, each event targets a different audience. TLR is for youth and one adult (from the same parish) and YMA is an adult-only event.

TLR requires a full weekend experience while YMA allows adults to attend a Saturday only event. Full weekend YMA participants are encouraged to attend a Friday evening orientation session and remain following the Saturday afternoon YMA session and join TLR through its conclusion on Sunday. (This is for church groups attending both events.)

Note that only Saturday meals are included. Since this is a camp setting (A/C dorms including bunk beds with mattresses), all participants will be required to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, towel, personal toiletries and changes of clothes.

Space is limited for both events! The registration deadline is August 3, at which time the full per-person registration fee and health forms will be due (make church check payable to Kansas District, LCMS) and may be mailed to Educational Services, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604.

For questions pertaining to TLR, contact Lay Leader Vicki Lessman (Trinity, Wichita) at 316-685-1571. For questions pertaining to YMA, contact DCE Bill Prann (Bethany, Overland Park) at 913-648-2228.

Timothy Gathering
Sept. 17-18
Topic: Building Worship
For all pastors new to the Kansas District
within the last 3 years and vicars.
Watch for information coming soon!

Fall Singles' Retreat

The Kansas District Singles' Steering Committee invites you to the annual Fall Singles' Retreat, Oct. 5-7 at Camp Webster Conference Center in Salina. The theme is "Are Kansas Singles Still Ablaze?" led by Rev. Terry Dittmer. Together we will unpack what scriptures have to say about "keeping the fires burning within us."

The cost for the weekend is \$75, which includes meals and lodging. The commuter rate is \$50 (meals only). The deadline for registration is Sept. 15. For more information, please contact the Kansas District Office, Educational Services, at 785-357-4441 ext. 206 or Staci Timm, Singles Steering Committee Chair, at 785-823-6727 (evenings). Hope to see you there!

Workshops for Ministry Teams & Spouses of Church Workers

Redeemer, Olathe is hosting two workshops on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Jim Bradshaw will facilitate "Teams Building Healthier Teams" and Marlene Kohlmeier will facilitate "Married to a Church Worker."

Here is the agenda for Ministry Teams:
9:00 a.m. Registration/Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Opening Devotion (both groups together)
9:30 a.m. Team Building Exercises
10:30 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. Staff Operations: Clarifying Goals; Organizing; Cooperating; Planning/Implementing; Problem Solving; Evaluating
12:30 p.m. Lunch (both groups together)
1:15 p.m. Staff Climate: Attitude; Communication; Conflict; Relationships
2:30 p.m. Break
2:45 p.m. Staff Covenanting
3:45 p.m. Closing Devotion (both groups together)
4:00 p.m. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
A Parallel Track for Spouses will follow a similar time frame.
The cost is \$10/person and includes lunch. Registration deadline for both workshops is Sept. 14. For more information or to register, contact Redeemer at 913-764-2359.

Matching Gift for Deaf Ministry

We have a donor in Kansas who has given a generous gift to deaf ministry. The donor made this gift in two parts - one part is an outright gift, the second part is a matching gift of \$5,000.

The donor would like to be able to give the full amount of \$5,000, but there must be \$5,000 in gifts for deaf ministry given by individuals or congregations in order to do that. When we have raised \$5,000, he will match that amount.

Please prayerfully consider the opportunity this gift may provide for sharing the Gospel with deaf people in your communities. Checks (payable to Kansas District LCMS) may be sent to: Kansas District LCMS, 1000 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604. Please include a signed note designating the money is to be used for the deaf ministry matching gift.

Preserving Memories

The staff at the Kansas District Office has been asked to develop a plan for use of the basement. There has been considerable interest expressed in developing a museum that would house items that individual congregations would like to share with others. You may know of some piece of history, particularly from abandoned congregations, such as a special baptismal font or communion ware. Active congregations may have something to share, either permanently or for a specified period of time. We can't take items now, but we need to know how to plan the space. If you have something of interest or have questions, send an email to archives@kslcms.org, call Rev. George Bruening at 785-273-5769 or call Dean Landman at 785-266-4467.

Missionary Summit in Houston

Some 200 current and former LCMS career missionaries took part in two gatherings in conjunction with the church body's 63rd Regular Convention in Houston.

◆ About 100 missionaries serving in more than 20 countries attended a weeklong "Ablaze! Missionary Summit" July 7-13 under the theme "Renewing Our Covenant – Rekindling Our Joy." The event included plenary presentations on urban and global Christianity, mission trends, joyful service, staying healthy on foreign fields and the Synod's Ablaze! evangelism initiative. There were daily Bible studies; mission reports; regional meetings among those serving on U.S., Asian, African, Latin American and Eurasian mission fields; and special activities for missionary children.

The missionaries attended "global network" workshops on various topics, such as recruitment, theological education, human care, the role of missionary wives, crisis counseling, school ministry, church planting, medical ministry and educating missionary children.



Kansas District Website

Guinea Partnership page:

http://kslcms.org/ks_guinea/index.htm.

Together In Mission page:

http://www.kslcms.org/ks_tim/index.htm.

District Youth Gathering

The Kansas District Youth Gathering Team has been busy planning this year's LCMS District Gathering. The theme, "i.e.", is a Latin phrase meaning "that is" and indicates that an explanation is about to follow. Focusing on 1 Timothy 4:12-14, the team hopes to challenge participants to put their faith into action and be intentional in their worship and witness. The Gathering band is Daniels Window from Nashville, TN and speakers for this year's event are Rev. Jeff Meyer and Rev. LeRoy Sullivan. Both serve in the greater Kansas City area.

Registration for "i.e." is \$70 which includes all programming and gathering wear. The Hyatt in Wichita is hosting this year's Gathering. Registration packets will be mailed in August. Online registration will be available. Your DYG team members are: Heidi Koehler, Tim Koehler, Henry Blickhan, Paul Johnson, Kate Olson, Brain Amey and Donna Williams (chair). If you have questions after receiving your Gathering packet, contact Donna Williams at 316-283-1441 or deczion@sbcglobal.net.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Bethany, Wichita is celebrating her 50th anniversary with a special service on Sept. 9th at 9:00 a.m. Rev. Devon Woodyard, former pastor at Bethany, will be the guest speaker. A dinner will follow the service. There will be an Open House from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact Marilyn Moore at 316-524-7677 or email dalem@sbcglobal.net.



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

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